BYAAAAH!!!

NO WEBSITE
NO MIRC
NO E-MAIL

HERE'S THE 8TH VOLUME OF THE MANGA: NODAME CANTABILE.
FOR THE FANS BY A FAN.
REMEMBER, IF YOU LIKE IT, GO BUY IT!
PAGES HAVE BEEN CROPPED TO GET RID OF THE GUTTER,
BUT IT'S STILL VISIBLE,
AS I REALLY DON'T CARE TOO MUCH ABOUT THE QUALITY.
SCANNED > CROPPED > CLEANED > SAVED.
ALSO I'VE DONE A QUICK JOB ON ANY DOUBLE PAGE SPREADS,
JUST TO MAKE IT EASIER TO READ.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE MY ATTEMPT, GO BUY IT FOR
YOURSELVES AND ENJOY YOUR OWN VERSION..
ANYHOW ENJOY!

NEXT UP: NODAME CANTABILE VOL 09.
NOTE: MOAR NODAME EH?
LUCKY PEOPLE YOU GET 3 VOLUMES THIS WEEK.
SHOULD KEEP SOME BUGGERS HAPPY X
OH AND ON ANOTHER NOTE, FOR THE PEOPLE WHO
WERE DISCUSSING SCANLATING NODAME FROM JAPANESE,
I'D SUGGEST YOU START WITH VOL 10.
I'LL BE RELEASING THE REST OF VOLS I HAVE THIS WEEK,
AND VOL 10 IS RELEASED IN JULY/AUG.
SO IF YOU BELIEVE YOU CAN GET A VOL DONE BY THEN,
GOOD LUCK TO YA!!
TILL NEXT TIME.

RU

Nodame Cantabile

TOMOKO NINOMIYA

Winner of the Kodansha Manga of the Year Award

デルレイ

Nodame Cantabile 8

TOMOKO NINOMIYA

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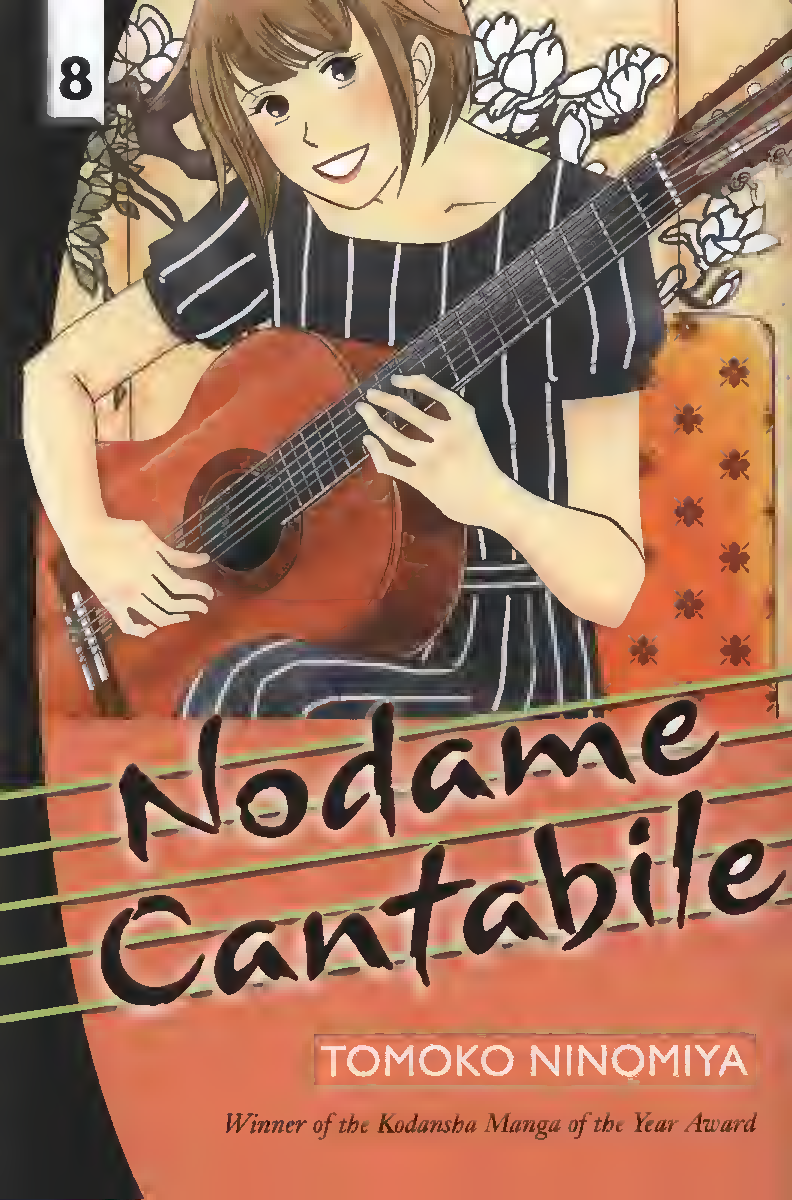
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Nodame Cantabile
TOMOKO NINOMIYA
Winner of the Kodansha Manga of the Year Award

Nodame Cantabile

8

TOMOKO NINOMIYA

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
David and Eriko Walsh

LETTERED BY
North Market Street Graphics

BALLANTINE BOOKS • NEW YORK

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A Note from the Author

Nodame and Chiaki are both trying hard.
Finally, a lot of piano songs are included but
doing the competition was tough.
It was difficult to draw.

TOMOKO NINOMIYA

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (e.g. "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (e.g. "Negi-sensei" or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many translations into English leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than -san. It is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than -sama and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men amongst friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/ Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as sempai. It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of -sempai, and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as yobisute, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

のだめ
カンタービレ
Nodame Cantabile
#8
二ノ宮知子

Introducing the residents of
Nodame's Kingdom ♥ Capriccio Cantabile!
Mukyaa...!! (?)

Noda Megumi
4th year Piano student. She's not good at sight reading and she plays piano her own way. Etoh sees hope in her as a pianist and she becomes his student. Chiaki and her eat dinner together ♥, like husband and wife (?). But she's in a one-way love...

Megumi Noda

Chiaki Shinichi
1st year student at graduate school. He has a phobia of airplanes so he can't study abroad. He conducts the R ☆ S Orchestra. He's very charismatic and Nodame clings to him all the time.

Shinichi Chiaki

Mine Ryutaro
4th year Violin student. He's a good friend of Nodame's. He's very good at showing off on the violin and his father owns the "Uraken" Chinese restaurant. He respects Chiaki and got into the R ☆ S Orchestra.

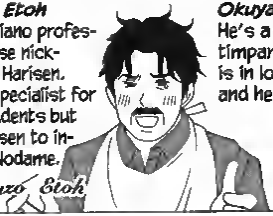
Ryutaro Mine

Kiyora Miki
She's a violinist who started the R ☆ S Orchestra with Chiaki. She is returning in triumph with Kai Dowin, who was the principal violinist with the Berlin Philharmonic. She seems to be Mine's girlfriend.

Yasunori Kuroki
He's a talented oboist. He thinks Nodame is a lovely girl and through a misunderstanding ends up in a one-way love with her. His playing sounds like smoky silver but because of love it changes to pink.

Toru Kikuchi
He's a cellist and has returned to Japan from abroad for a short stay. He and Chiaki met at the music festival in Nagano. His playing is very expressive and he was a winner at a music competition. He's also a lady's man.

Okuyama Masumi
He's a professional timpanist. Okuyama is in love with Chiaki and he's a girly man.



Kouzo Etoh
He's a piano professor whose nickname is Harisen. He's a specialist for elite students but has chosen to instruct Nodame.

Nodame Cantabile

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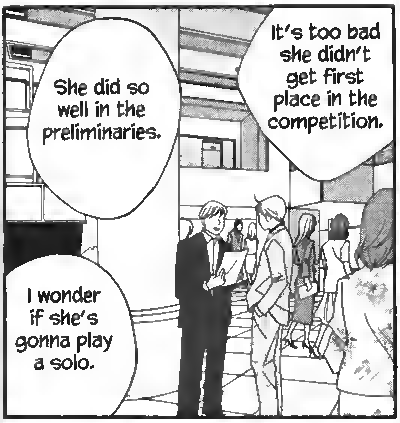
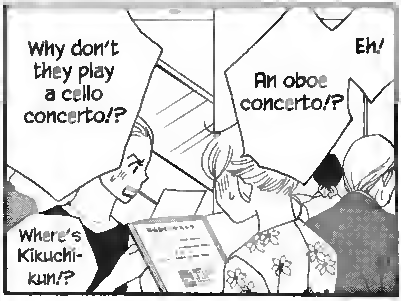
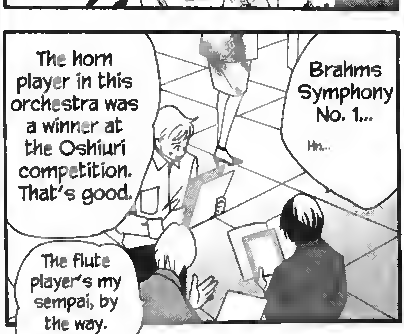
TOMOKO NINOMIYA

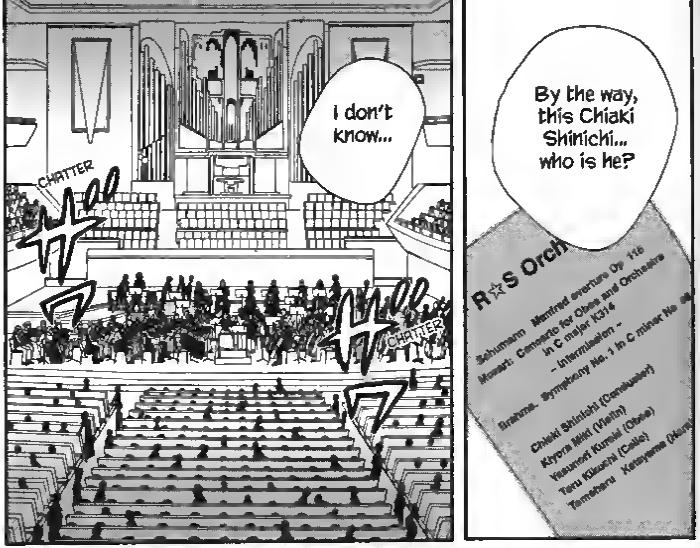
The day's first performance.
The R☆S Orchestra
Lesson 41

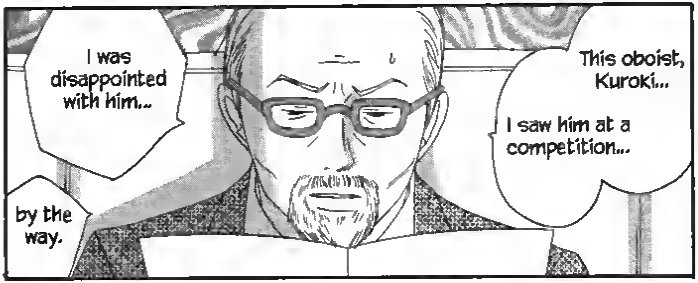

It's too bad she didn't get first place in the competition.
She did so well in the preliminaries.
I wonder if she's gonna play a solo.


Why don't they play a cello concerto!?
Eh!
An oboe concerto!?
Where's Kikuchi-kun!?


The horn player in this orchestra was a winner at the Oshiuri competition. That's good.
Brahms Symphony No. 1...
Hm...
The flute player's my sempai, by the way. ♡

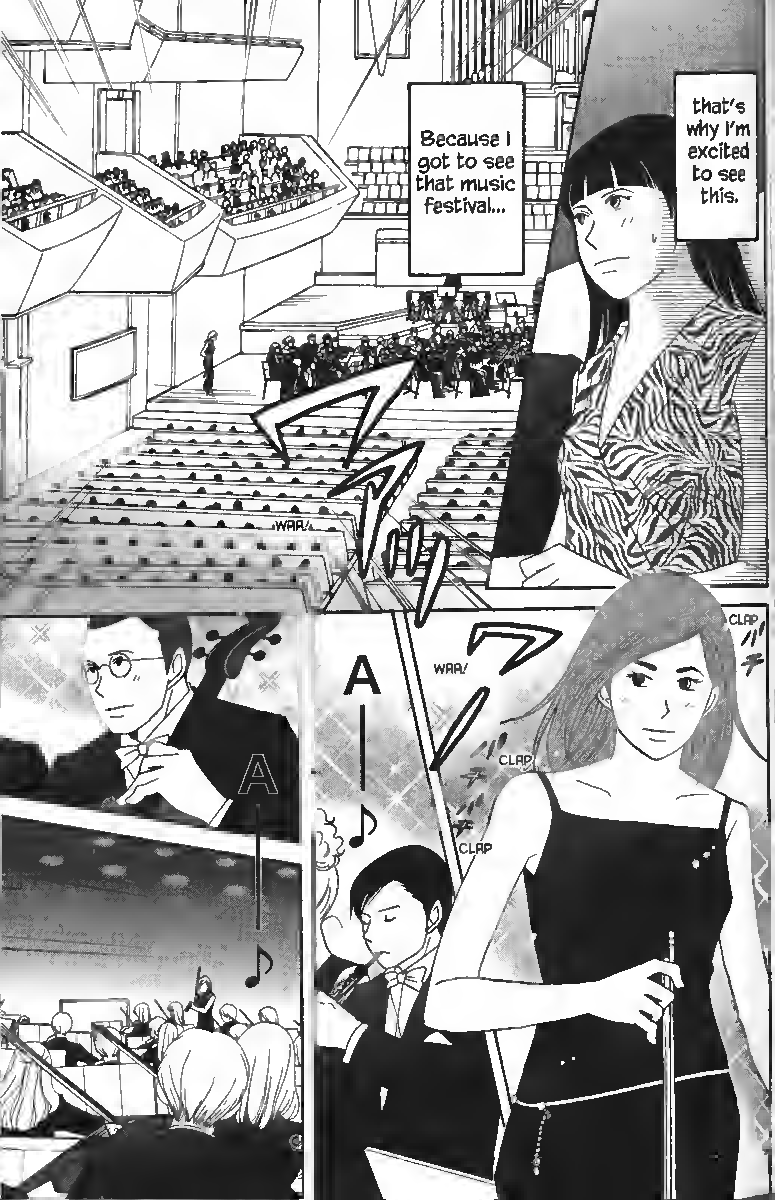
Kikuchi-kun is cool!
WOW!
Japan's newest young hopefuls
Rising Star Orches
R★S Orchestra
Kiyora Miki is cool too...
She's the next big star!





↑ Music critic, Sohtaro Ohkawa

Chiaki-kun chose the soloist...
And Chiaki-kun's also conducting.
Good
It's gonna be okay. ♡
So who is Chiaki!?
INDIGNANT
It disappoints me
that no one knows about Chiaki-kun's conducting yet.
Even Sakuma-san
doesn't know how good he is.
HA HA HA
He's never entered any competitions
and he's only performed in front of an audience at his university.
FUUU
But


Because I got to see that music festival...
that's why I'm excited to see this.
WAA/
A
A
WAA/
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
Br...
Bravo...!

It's music time. Let's enjoy this.
Now...

Schumann
<Manfred
Overture>
Op. 115

It was inspired by Byron's dramatic poem <Manfred>
Manfred was a typical person during the romantic period who lived a life of suffering.
Schumann, who sympathized with Manfred, was one of the best-known composers of romantic music and wrote this piece the only dramatic poem he composed in his life.

Suffering
Hopeless and

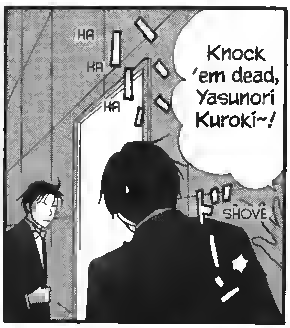
A life of ups and downs
What force this orchestra has!
Is this the power of youth!?

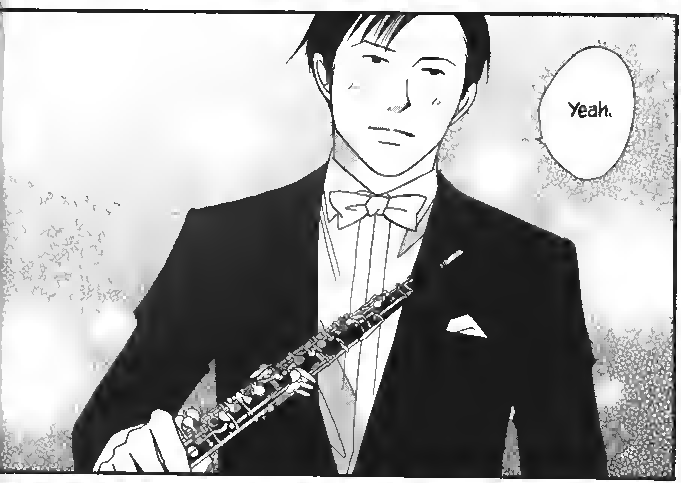
No.
It's not only that.

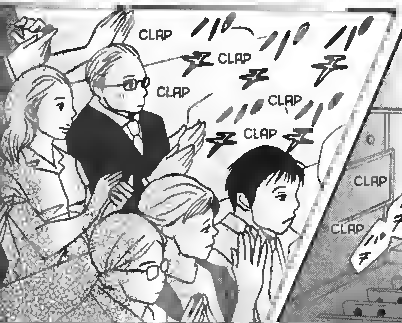
This orchestra has such a beautiful sound.
In the end
Manfred was set free by his wife's spirit from the other world
to die.

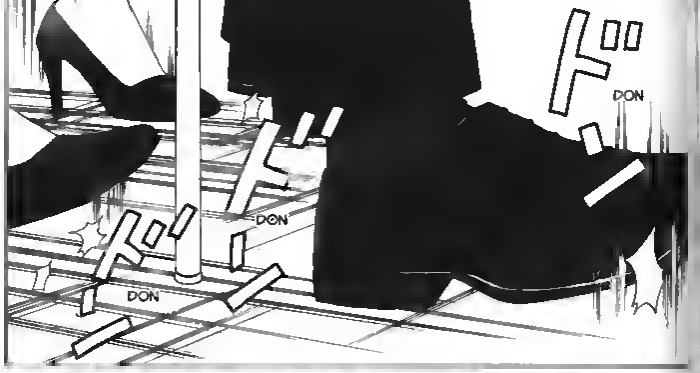
WHAA!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
They already like them?
Of course.
WHAA!
Great!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
WHAA!
OHH!
It's your turn next.
Kurokin
HA HA HA
Kurokin!?
Good luck!
Go win 'em over with Mozart! Go show them how sad you can be!

Shall we?


HA
HA
HA
Knock 'em dead, Yasunori Kuroki~!
SHOVE


Yeah.


CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
WHAA


ドン
DON
ドン
DON
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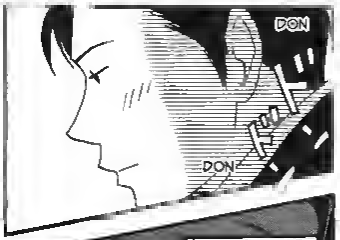
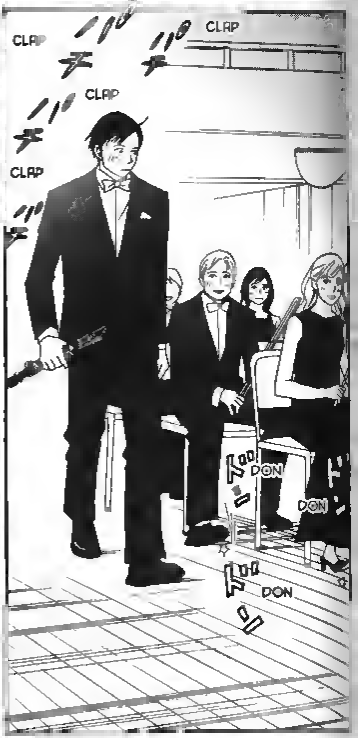
DON


DON
ドン
DON


CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
ドン
DON
ドン
DON
ドン
DON

Even after my miserable defeat in the competition...
Chiaki-kun and everyone in this orchestra never lost their confidence in me...

TP
ドン
TP
ドン
TP
ドン
I will live up to their expectations.

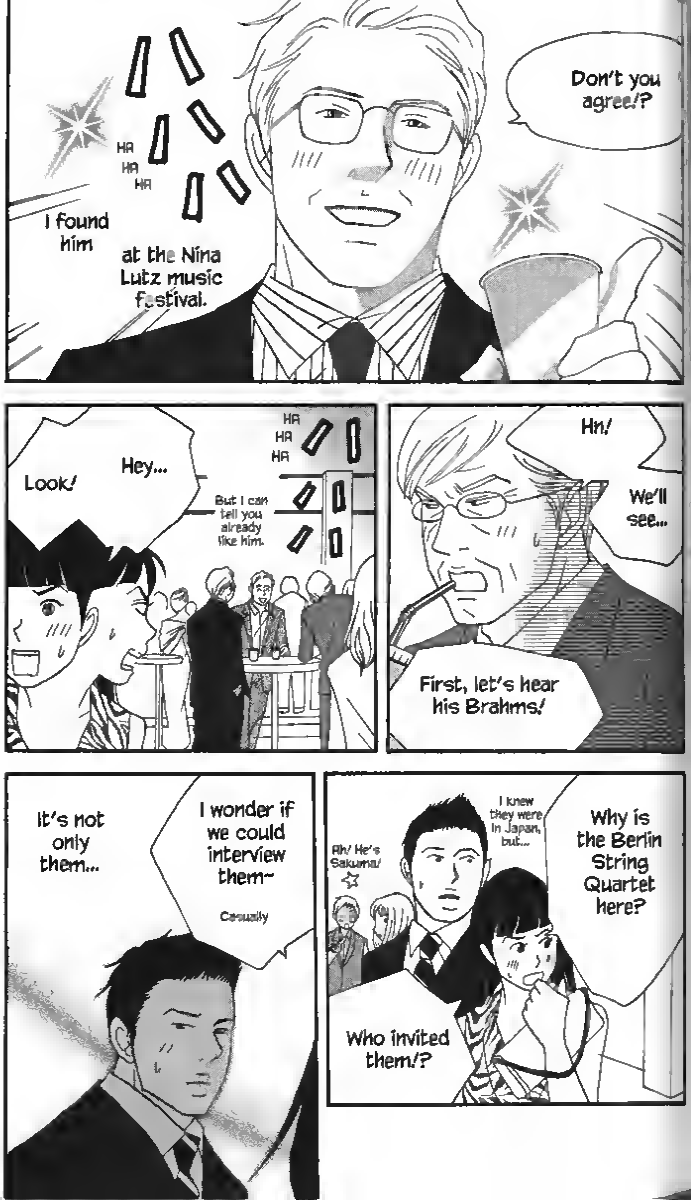
The first movement, Allegro aperto

I'm falling in love with Megumi-chan
and this piece I played while thinking of her
still echoes with beauty in my heart.
And I wonder...

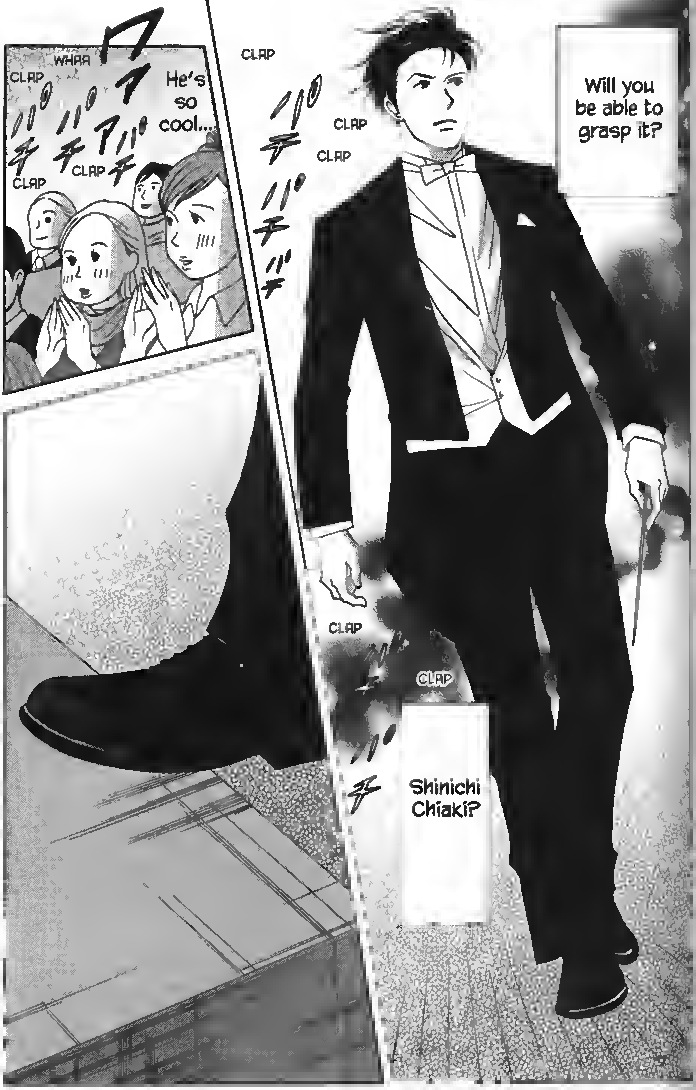
can you hear my true meaning
as I play my oboe?
Se... Sensei...
WHAA!
Bravo!!

This orchestra is fantastic!!
Did you hear that!?
CHATTER
CHATTER
WHAP!
We will now take a 15-minute intermission.
WHAP!
I want him in my orchestra...
Oboe god!?
What's with that oboe player!?
The concert-master's really good~
They're all such competent players.
I want to join!
Amazing! Cool
AH!
あ
Too good!!
Kiyora Miki.
She's a good player, isn't she, Mr. Dowin?

Hn!
No wonder she wasn't prepared for the competition.
Wouldn't that be because of that special pillow you gave her?
She slept at a funny angle.
HA
HA
HA
I trained her to be a soloist! Not a concertmaster!
No way! You, the Great Master, were also a concertmaster!
By the way, the oboist...
I want to bring him to Europe.
Indeed.
He's very talented.
That conductor...
Yes...
And maybe Hans was right.

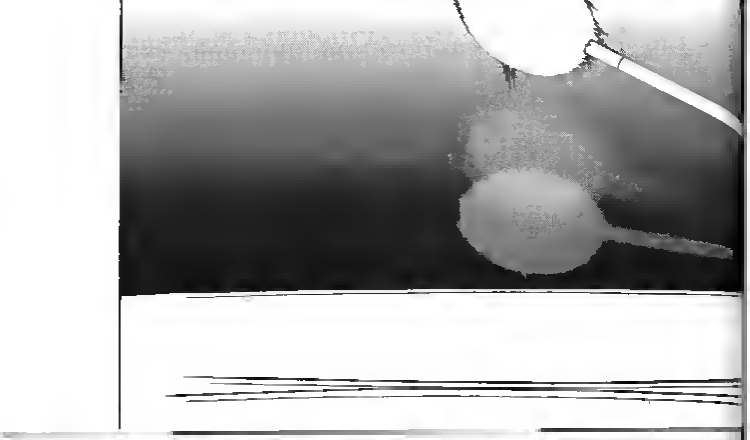

Don't you agree!?
HA HA HA
I found him at the Nina Lutz music festival.
Look!
Hey...
But I can tell you already like him.
HA HA HA
Hn!
We'll see...
First, let's hear his Brahms!
Why is the Berlin String Quartet here?
I knew they were in Japan, but...
Ah! He's Sakuma!
Who invited them!?
I wonder if we could interview them~
Casually
It's not only them...

Classical fans
Famous conductors, critics
There are many orchestra professionals here.
To make it in music takes a lot of luck. It's not just talent.
The greatest treasure of noble art is sleeping on a golden island.
The vast expanse of a far-off ocean is smiling.
WHAA
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP


WHAA
CLAP
He's so cool...
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
Will you be able to grasp it?
Shinichi Chiaki?

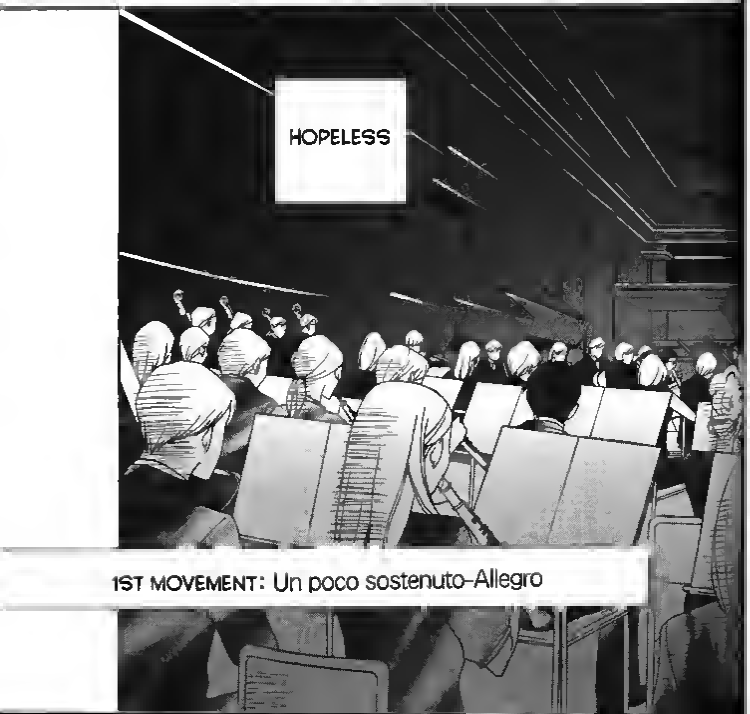
Stop making that funny mouth!

Lesson42



Johannes Brahms Symphony No.1

in C minor, Op. 68



1ST MOVEMENT: Un poco sostenuto-Allegro

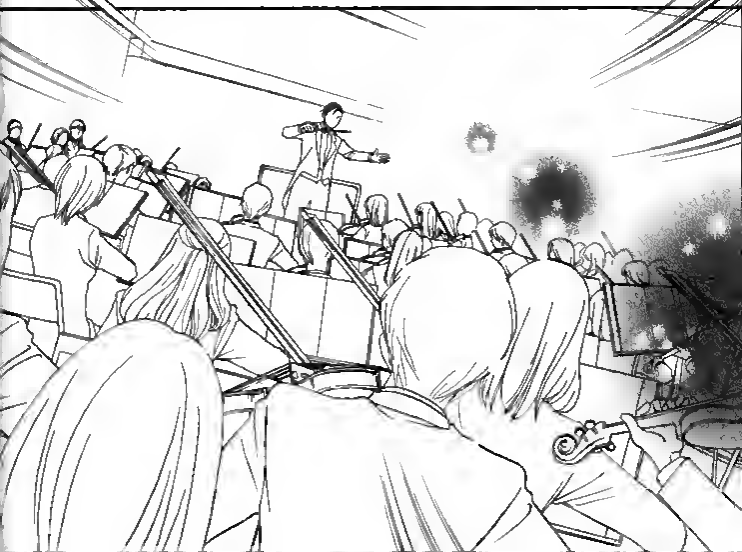
The two melodies meet...
and

it's the pain in Brahms' heart...

You have so much talent...
And are so passionate about music...
I wonder why...

2nd movement
Andante sostenuto
Violin solo
Why?
But always carry such "hopeless-ness" on your back?

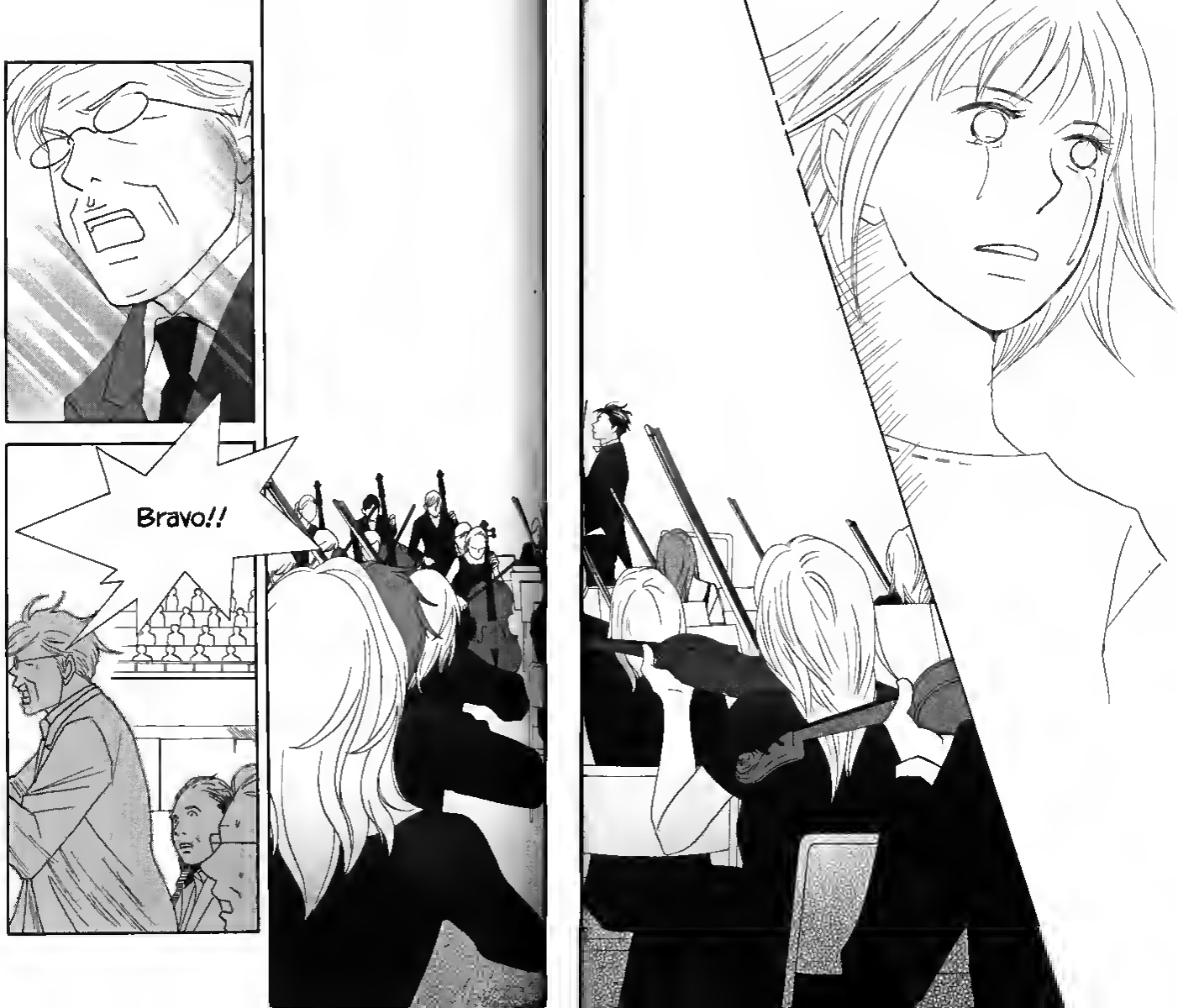
3rd movement: Un poco allegretto e grazioso



4th movement: Adagio-Più Andante-Allegro non troppo, ma con brio- Più Allegro
Now, let's sing.

Minor to major
The joy of chorale
From "tragedy" to "hope and relief"

Sing!
Song of delight


Bravo!!

Bravo!!
WHAA
Bravo!!
WHAA

WHAA

Mother?
Seiko-mommy...
Ah,.. dame-chan!?
Are you Chiaki-sempai's...

Express! Sing!
Now the Angels are floating down.
Rising Star Orchestra.
Shimmering new stars gather under one conductor.
You're a star of hope shining in the sky
Please take us to a universe far away
Schumann, that passionate excitement!
Mozart that takes us from hopelessness to delight!
change god's dusk to one's greatest hope!
with delight and a feeling of having
whom the gods love
A few days later.
Huh...
Ohkawa-sensei...!!
Yes!
Hello! Keiko-san!?
EH!
You got phone calls asking when they're performing again!?
Wow!
I'll meet you at the Uraken!!
Did you see it!? Did you read the Oshiuri News article!?
Ohkawa-sensei's article!?
An article in Classic Life!?

The summer humidity in this country...
It never changes.
But...
Sempai~~
What? There's stew in a pan if you want to eat something.
I know, but that's not what I want.
I don't feel as uncomfortable as I used to.

I brought you a present today.
Huh?
What for!?
This is a reward for the success of your performance. ♡
What!?... Why do I get a "reward" from you?
It's another *Puri Gorota, right?
Not quite...
Just look at this.
Ah...
What?
The watch from the other day.
Are you giving that to me?
The truth is, I did want it...
Before I give it to you
I want you to concentrate first.
SHWEEN
*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES.

?
Just keep watching.
ur eyelids
e getting
heavy.
They're getting heavier and heavier...
You can't keep your eyes open anymore.
Hauh...
You can't fight it any longer.
OK... what next...?

You are 12 years old.
Ah...
You are now on an airplane traveling from Vienna to Japan.
Your mom is next to you.
"Shinichi says he doesn't remember anything that happened."
"The fact is only one person died in that accident"
The man...
who was sitting to your right?

that liked music.
The old man...
He said to his wife sitting beside him, "Let's go again next year."
VIERA
He had a program from Vieira-sensei's concert.
That's what he said, many times.
And then...
Belly landing!?
Wheel problem!?
Everyone, please stay calm!!

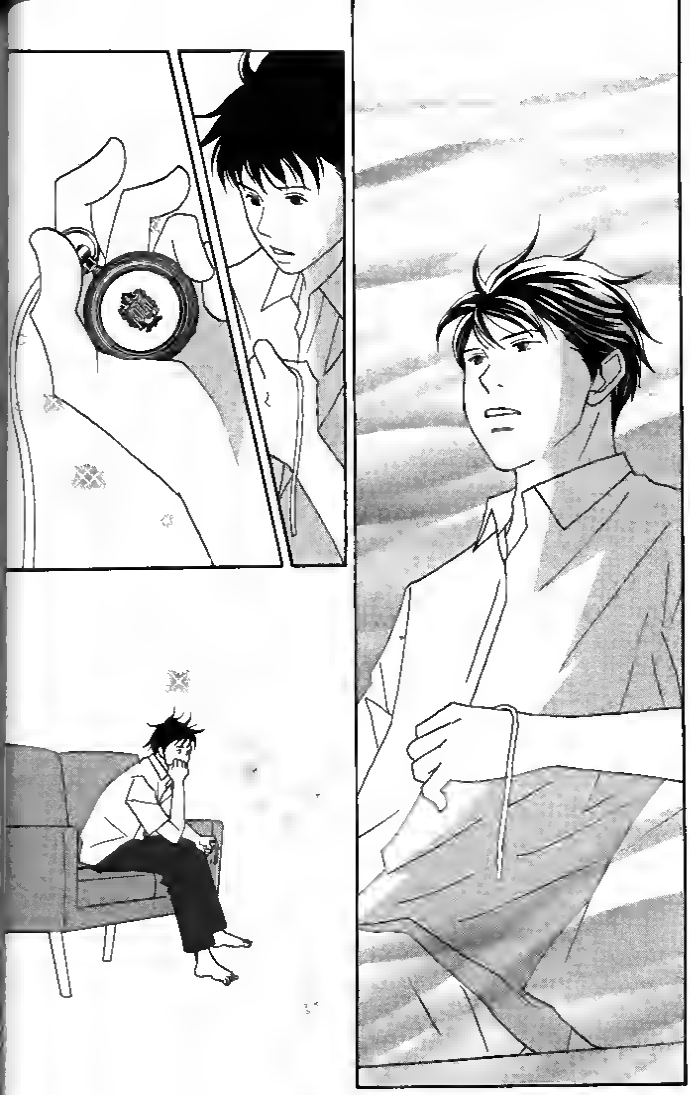
KACHAN
Honey!?
We will be setting down in a few minutes!
Please fasten your seat belts and put your head down!!
What's wrong!?
Your medicine...
Where's your medicine!?
Ah...
Shinichi!!
I couldn't grab it.

I was the only one who saw it.
"To Vienna"
"by ourselves."
"Let's go again next year."
Sempai, it's not your fault.
You were just a little kid...
There were adults there, too...
but nobody ould have aved him.

You understand what happened.
You can forget that...
Now
You'll be all right.
Sempai, now...
you can ride on an airplane.
Please try.

The gods are calling you.
You must go.
Peeee...

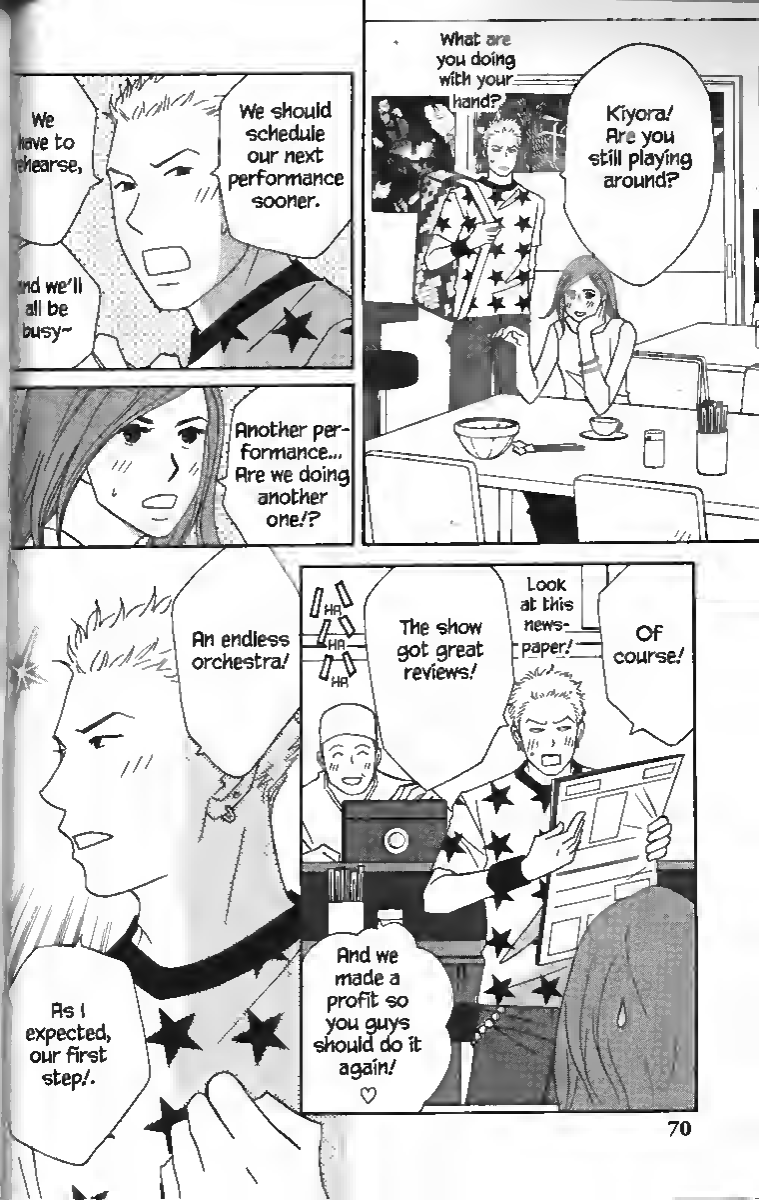
Pe pe pe pe pe.
ピ
ピ
ピ
ピ
ピ
…
"When the timer rings..."
"Please open your eyes."
"When they've opened you will have forgotten everything you experienced and talked about while they were closed."



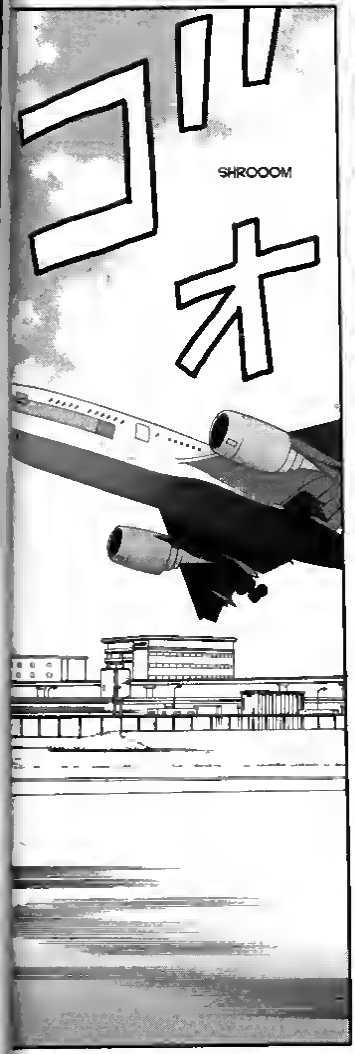
OK... what next...?

Lesson43

WHAAA
Bravo!
WHAAA


We have to rehearse,
We should schedule our next performance sooner.
and we'll all be busy~
Another performance... Are we doing another one!?
What are you doing with your hand?
Kiyora! Are you still playing around?
An endless orchestra!
HA HA HA
The show got great reviews!
Look at this newspaper!
Of course!
As I expected, our first step!.
And we made a profit so you guys should do it again! ♡

Great! Dad
...Yeah...
We need to contact Mina right away!
You can do another performance, right, Kiyora!?
Another performance?
Yeah.
Of course I'll do it.
Das Leiden eines Knaben
RRR RING
RRR RING
RRR RING
The meeting
OK. But let's try a cello concerto this time.


ゴオ
SHROOOM

RING
RRR
RRR
RING

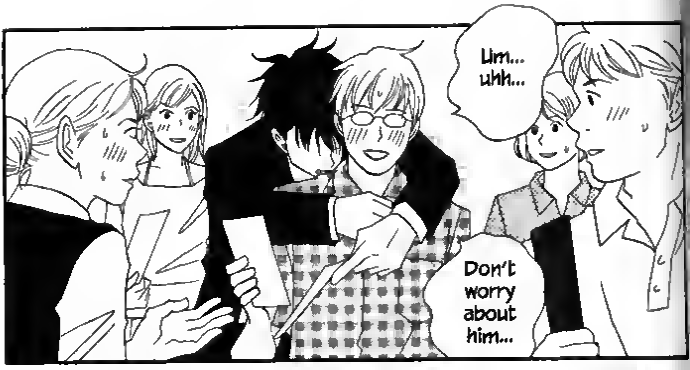
Damn it! Chiaki's still not home!

His cell phone must be off, too!
What is he doing!?
SNP
I wonder if he's gone somewhere?

"Sempai, now you can ride on an airplane."

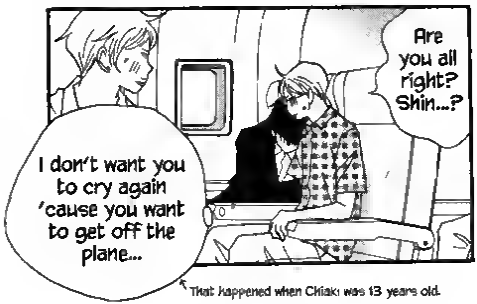
"Please try."

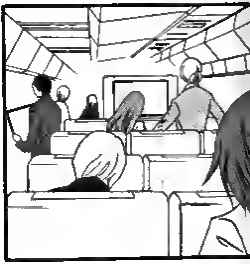
Why am I the one who has to do you a favor!?
I don't want to fly with you, Shin!
You're too unlucky!!
Toshihiko Miyoshi (Chiaki's cousin)
Because... Would you rather I took Yuiko with me!?
That means you don't care about me!!
Would all passengers taking the Kodan Airlines flight 733 for Sapporo...
Ah...
Enjoy your flight.
Have a nice trip.
Have a...
HEE
They've started boarding.



"Please try."

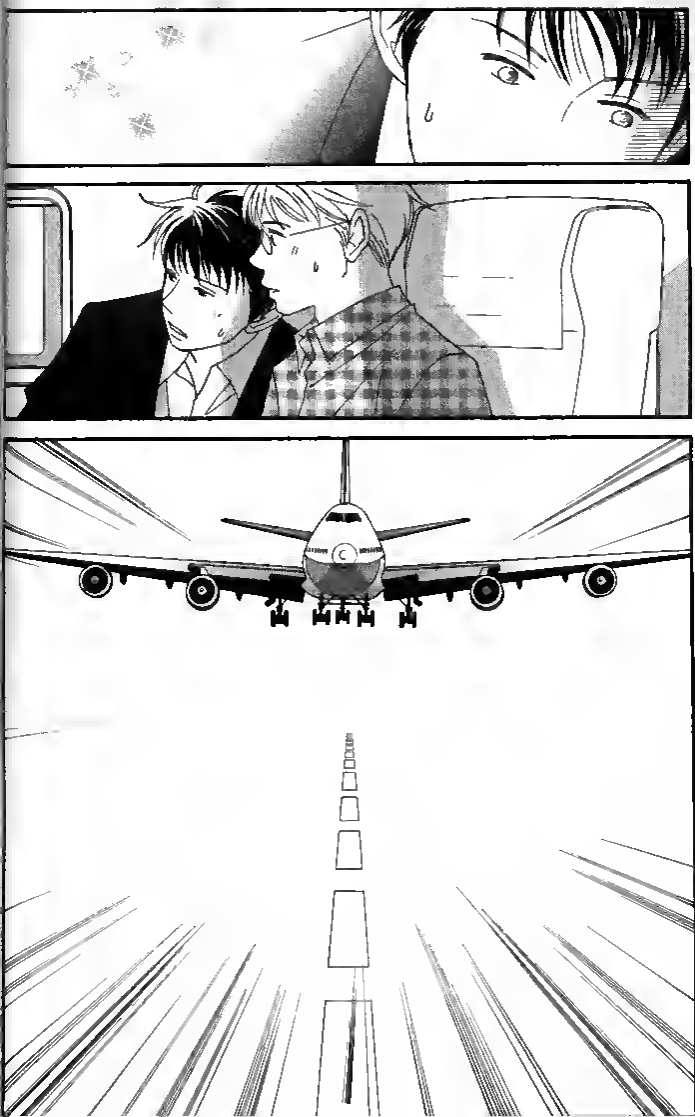
"Why don't you try flying to Hokkaido first?"





↖That happened when Chiaki was 13 years old.

"You'll be all right."



I think he should have brought someone
who could shut him up or hold him down a little better!
I'm worried it's only Toshihiko...
*Shin-chama.
I wonder if he got on the plane?
PEEP
He'll be all right.
This is the first time Shinichi's ever said he wanted to fly.
PEEP

*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES.

I'm sure he'll be all right.
PHEW...
I can fly abroad...
I can fly to anywhere.

You really did it.
Congratulations, Shin.
I flew in that sky.
What do you wanna do? Go home and cerebrate right away?
HOKKAIDO
FURUBE
Tasty eats in Hokkaido!
This is my first time in Hokkaido.
Or, we can stay overnight and go sightseeing!?

"You can buy me lots of crabs, okay?"

Sempai's and my

Prelude to Love
*The <Clean-Up> piano sonata.
Is that... Schubert?
Or, Beethoven?
*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES

Wake up!
ゆっさ
SHAKE
ゆっさ
SHAKE
You ate too much breakfast...
ぐ！
zzzzzzz
You're sleeping again!!
Hauh...
What did you say?
Your piece for the first preliminary!!
Do you want to play Schubert or Beethoven!?
Oh, the piece?
You mean for the competition, right?
GRRRR

Schubert
Piano Sonata N°16 in A minor D.845
I'll play this one!
Schumann.
That's Schubert!!
Huh...
You're right...
Are you really serious about playing this piece!?
Yes, I am!
I practiced at home!
Schubert
I'll play it right now!
EH...

What a surprise...
She really practiced
I still can't believe what she said
But...
That was awful...
What...?
Phew...
But why so suddenly!?
Please!
I'll enter the competition!!
Train me!
I was pleased to hear her say that to me.

What do you think?
Do you think I can win?
Are you planning to win?
HEE
Yes, I am.
You said yes...
But you haven't taken my lessons seriously until just recently.
It's not easy to win first place!!
That's an overly optimistic expectation!
Especially since there's so little time left to prepare.
Maybe this year you should just enter for the experience and then next year...
It will be too late for next year... Next year will be too late...!

Eh?
And why would anyone want to enter a competition just to lose?
Especially this Maradona Piano Competition.
The winner gets *2,000,000 yen!!
GRRR
Maradona Piano
1st Place - Prize 2,00
2nd Place - Prize 1,00
3rd Place - Prize
And also, if you're the winner...
they offer a scholarship fund!
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
You...
That's the reason you want to win!?

*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES

I never expected Nodame to be at Hariseri's house!
[As reported by Urakeni]
Impossible...
Oh...
Uh
Chiaki-kun!?

Kaori Etoh (Harlsen's wife), 38 years old
Ah ♡
It's really you, Chiaki-kun!
KYAA
It's been so long! ♡
What are you doing here? Did you come to ask to be his pupil again!?
No, I didn't...
Kaori-san, you're getting gaudier...
What's are those?
A gift!?
Crabs!?
WHAA
Ah... yes.
Here.
I just got back from Hokkaido.
These are gifts for you.
Please have them tonight. There's enough for everyone.
KLMP
KLMP
Ah...
Wait!

Does he take students as boarders now?
Sensei...
You don't have to peep...
Chiaki-kun, why don't you come in?
Fu-fu ♡
He's burning inside ♡ to teach...
Oh. Now he does.
He's giving live-in lessons since you did it.
That's amazing.
So she's staying with us until then to take lessons.
I wonder if she's a gifted student?
That student is going to enter the Maradona competition.
Eh...!?

Nodame in a competition!?
Oh.
That's a Schubert sonata.
Well...
Aha ha ha!
He's yelling, he's yelling.
Both her and her playing seem weird.
Improbable
Her Schubert is a little weird though...
She's not suited for competitions.

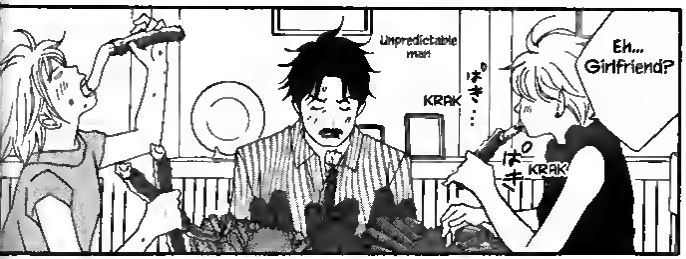
I admit that her sound...
and her technique are great.
I understand what Harisen wants to do, but...
Ah...
U-fu-fu
It's because of you, Chiaki-kun.
Can he fix her problems!?

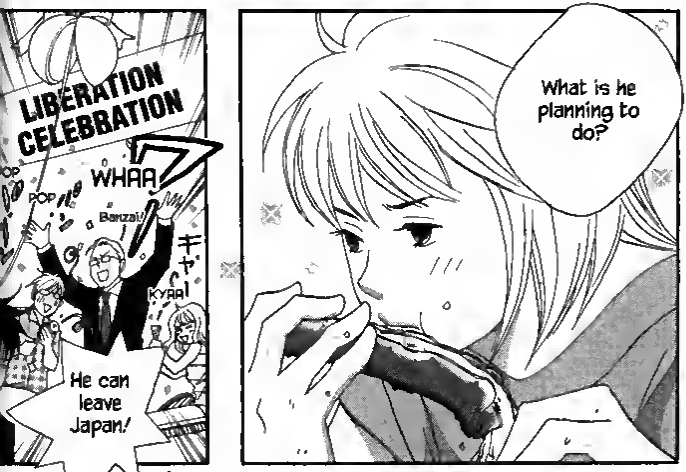
My husband got depressed when you broke his heart.
But he's changed a lot since then.
Eh?
Look.
He had that stupid Harisen, right?
Well he finally got rid of it.
You even awakened his fashion sense.
Kaori-san
I really don't think..
I'd better be going.

More than anyone else
If she's really serious about playing piano...
Nodame will never know unless she tries.
He'd be thrilled to see you.
Eh! Why don't you come in
I don't want to bother them.
I would trust Harisen with Nodame.

Playing Liszt...
she is great...
but her Schubert was awful.
Does she really have a chance to make it!?
Kouzo-san!
Nodame-chan!

IMPRESSIVE
Dinner is ready ♡
O-o-oh!
What are these!?
Crabs!?
ホホホ HO HO HO
Why are there so many!?
Some nice guy just gave them to me! ♡
Huh-h-h!?
Just kidding.
Chiaki-kun gave them to me!
He just brought them by. ♡
Even more curious
Huh ~ !?





↑ That same time at the Miyoshi residence

Lesson44

Play what's written!
Don't add your own notes!
Stop playing so carelessly!!
You shouldn't cut the note off in that part!!
You should never add notes or just play it the way you want it to be!!
If you do, that means you don't respect the piece or the composer!

At the competition...
Is it true there's a "hidden technique" to winning?
Sensei...?
Especially in the first primary because they're listening closely for technique and looking for people to eliminate.
Don't do needless things!
You don't have much time left.
By Maki-chan
Huh!?
Hidden technique!?
For instance... do students whose sensei is a judge have a better chance of winning?
Or do they send a gift to them?
And inside the gift is some money. Is that true!?
HOT SPRING COOKIES
SPECIAL PRODUCT

1
2
3
At the Maradona Piano Competition the players all have numbers so the judges don't know their names or their schools!
And most of the judges are foreigners!
ou don't have to send any gifts!
Do you think I should send a gift to them now!?
Don't you have a connection with the judges, Etoh-sensei?
What are you thinking!?
You are deplorable...
Then... you can't cheat!?
I'm gonna continue practicing now.
It's fine with me if nobody can cheat.
I feel relieved.

She thinks if nobody can cheat, she can win!?
"Relieved," she said...
You don't play Schubert well, do you?
Where is your confidence coming from?
So why did you choose him for the preliminaries?
Why...?
Well...

Why don't you go out with the same type of person you went out with before!?
You idiot!!
Because I want to go out on a date with someone different this time.
That's just the way I feel.
Sub: Schubert...
It seems even when I try to talk to him, he's not easy to get along with.
Chiaki-kun!
Because she hasn't been buying comics?
Her cell phone is back on now?
It was disconnected.
Nodame...

Rehearse!
He said "It's time to begin."
ドゥーン
IMPOSING
Hurry up!
Hurry up!
Huh?
Today's concertmaster
Sorry.
My Great Master said he wants to sit in on our rehearsal...

*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES.

Really? I'm looking forward to it.
Are you going to play the same program for your next performance?
I haven't played Brahms for a long time.
Let's begin!
No...
I'm going to change it a little.
We played it so much in the Berlin Phil, I got sick of it.
I don't know what's going on here, but...
I think this is pretty lucky for me.

I'm conducting the great concertmaster who commanded the best orchestra in the world.
I can hear...

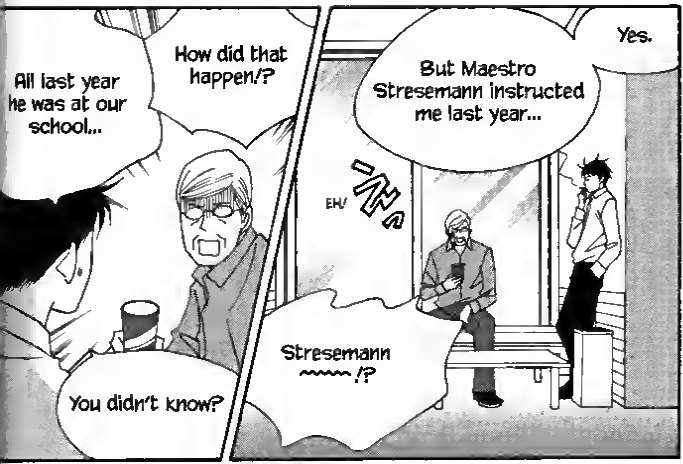
Play this part a little more lightly...
the sound of the Berlin Philharmonic...
Just a little staccato!
Forte!
No!
Ah... Not like that!
Play that part clearly.
In this case, you should start with the beginning of the bow.

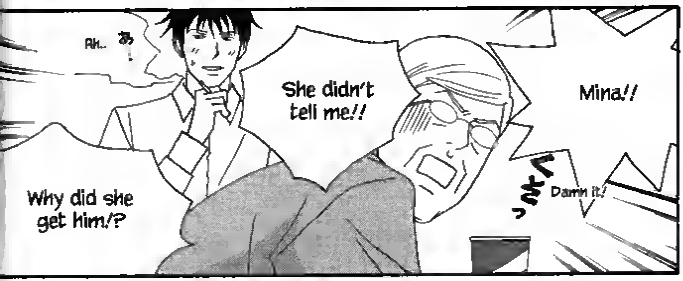
He said "In this case, you should start with the beginning of the bow."
And Chiaki!
Kiyora, why don't you translate to Japanese!?
The tone will be more clear, right?
Let's change the bowing on this part and add a slur.
Because...
we want that phrase to stand out more...
Do you know why I put in a slur?
He understands right away how I want to express it?
Of course, the phrase shouldn't be staccato
You'll have to change the direction of your bowing.
Right. That's important too.
But it needs more volume!

Yes, sir!
We'll do it!!
Let's try it!
You guys can do that, right!?
Yes... If it's possible.
Right!
In this part you are very important.
2nd violas!
Play more gracefully than the 1st violas!
What a differ-ence...!
Okay!

This world-famous concertmaster is an old warrior at this...
But he treats Chiaki and Kiyora like children...

When I look at it that way...
I feel exhilarated!
All this time...
You've been studying conducting on your own. Is that true?
And there are others in this world with such talent...

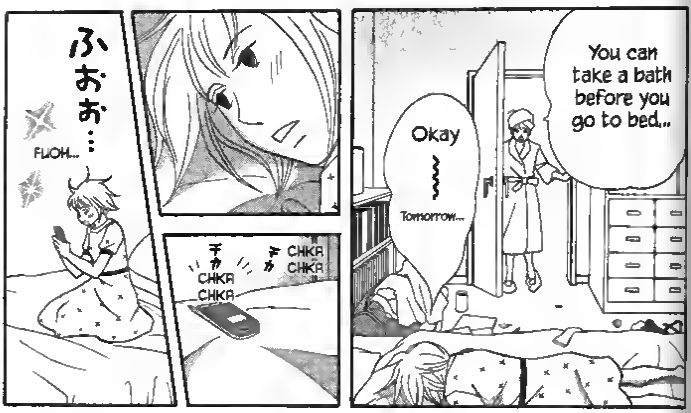

All last year he was at our school...
How did that happen!?
You didn't know?
But Maestro Stresemann instructed me last year...
Yes.
EH!
Stresemann ~~~~~!?


Ah..
She didn't tell me!!
Mina!!
Why did she get him!?
Damn it!

Yes...
Maybe most of it...
He taught you only stupid things, didn't he!?
That erotic old man!

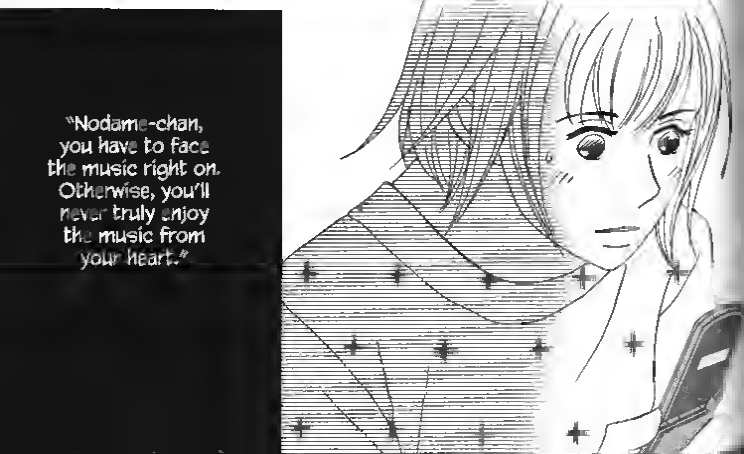
So,
are you...
going to Europe to follow him?
But his music...
I respect him.
I'm not going because of him...
But I am going to go
next year.

Franz...
Really...
Okay, then.
Translating
I thought he was too lazy and didn't take on any pupils.
No...
He's really a cunning old man.
Nodame-chan!



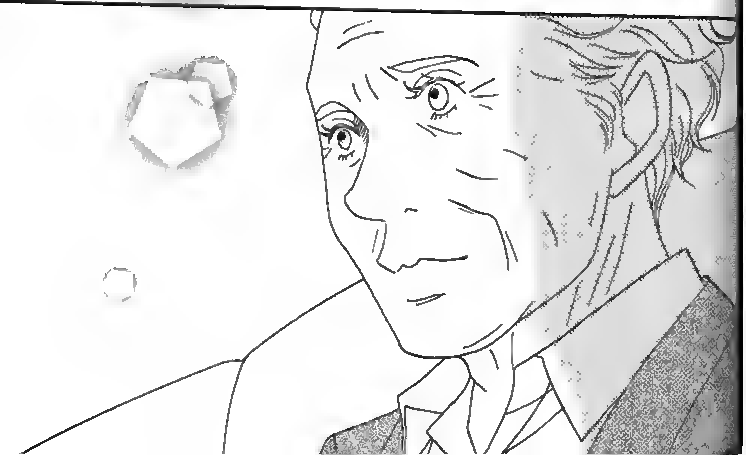
Re: Schubert

Is he really "hard to please"? Don't talk about yourself too much. Listen to what he says! Face the music right on!

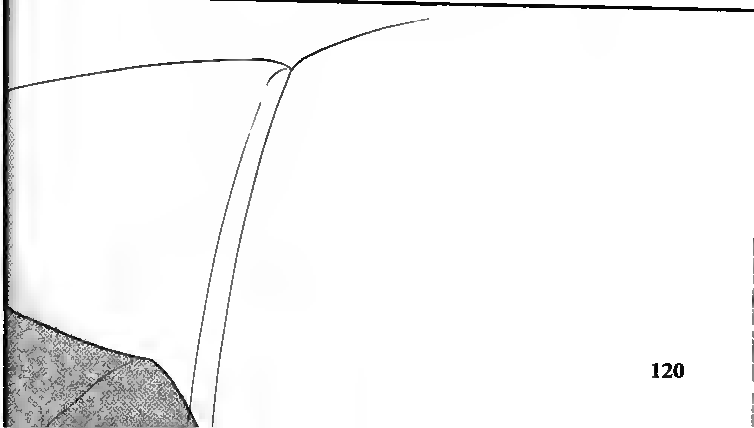


mp...
But Nodame-chan...
You can't be with Chiaki the way you are now.
You can't be with Chiaki...
Tempo.
f...

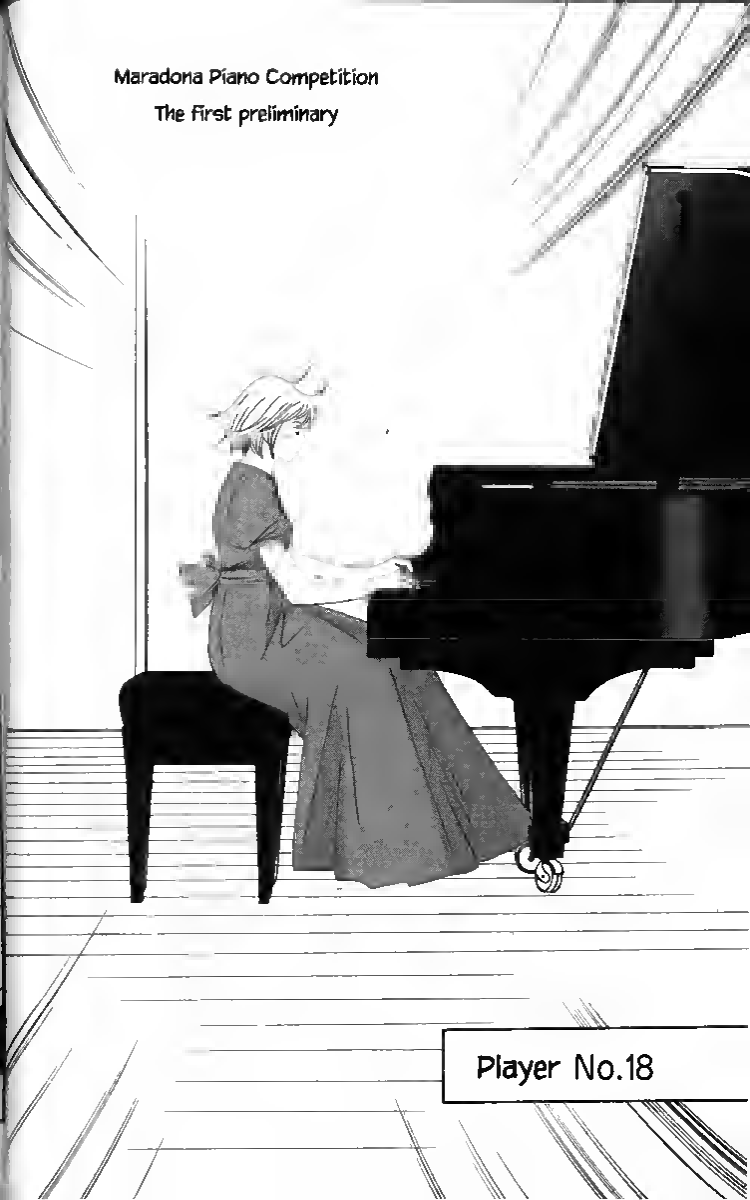
Don't forget to change the tempo.
Yes!
Huh?
Wrong finger!
Ohh.
Dotted notes, dotted notes.
One note longer...
Oh! I see...
Look.
There are no wasted notes.
One sound, one sound...
Can't you see...
how music becomes spectacle?
Connect it all...
and it starts flowing.



SEPTEMBER



Maradona Piano Competition
The first preliminary



Player No.18

Schubert
Piano
Sonata
No. 16 in
A minor
D.845
This sounds totally different.
Hey...
Someone's already played this piece, haven't they?
Yeah.
But...

Colorful sound
Expressive fortissimo
Sensei, sensei!
Please wake up!
This is the girl who plays so nice.

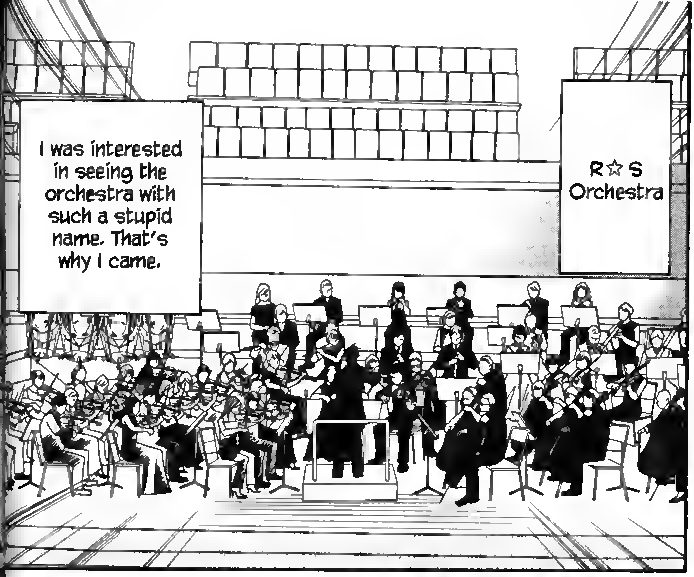
He's awake.
SKREECH
ガタッ
DAAN
ダーン…
BOW
ペコリ
SWAY
よろ

WRAA
CLAP
Bravo!
Great!
Somehow, she did it...
Cute!

ピッ
PEEP
ピーッ!!!
RINGGG
Sub : Nodame
I passed the first preliminary
♡♡Good luck, Senpai!♡Love
END
Phew
はー

There's still something in Japan
that I have to do.
Okay.
I'll do my best, too.
Chiaki-kun!
KNOCK
KNOCK
It's time.

Lesson45



Concertmistress: A female concertmaster

...Right?
Yeah...
And I heard a rumor about that guy...

He supposedly stole Shimabukuro-sempai's girlfriend. That's Toru Kikuchi...
But that's not surprising!
SAINT-SAENS
Cello Concerto

What is it about this orchestra?
What is it?

Why—?

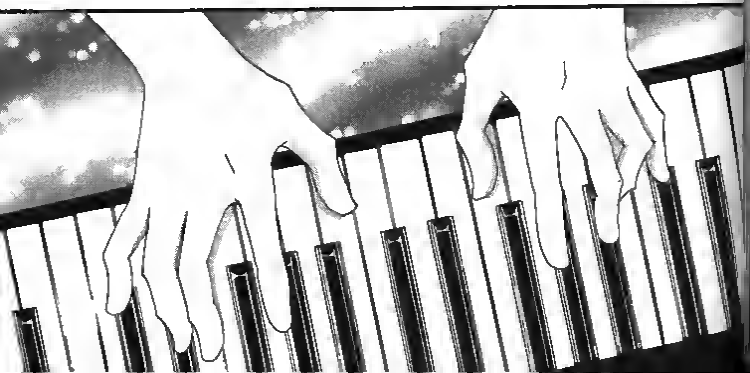
Eh?
JUICE
WHAA
Bravo!
WHAA
Bravo!
CLAP!
CLAP
Bravo!
Encore!
CLAP
Can I enter this orchestra?
We graduated from Morimitsu Music University last year.
Cello and horn.
I was one of the principal players.

Do I need to audition to join this orchestra...?
Excuse me.
If you ever need more players we'd love to help out.
I'll audition if I have to!
Sempai...?
Oh... Wait a minute!
I'm gonna get Chiaki!
Wait here!
Got it!!
I wanna join your orchestra.
HUH!?
Wait up!
!?
I'll be right back!
Eh!?

I'm Noriyuki Takahashi. I play violin.
I was studying in Paris but returned to Japan this year.
I won 3rd place at the Buffon International Violin Competition last year.
I played with an orchestra there so I have a little experience...
Uh...
!!

That's not good enough?
I think I could do a better job than your concertmistress.
What did he say.../?
3rd place at the Buffon International...
That's impressive.
...
...at did ...u say ...r name was?

J. S. Bach <Well-Tempered Clavier No. 2> No. 16 in G minor BWV885



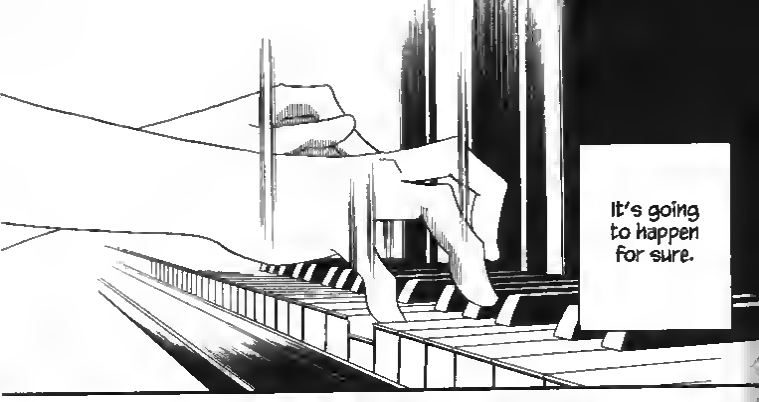
What are you doing!?
Please don't rewrite it!
That's an insult to the gods!
This piece has turned into a fugue in the middle!
Hey...
You have to memorize the whole thing!!
With Bach you can't pick it up in the middle of the piece!
Sonata in A minor D.845
Wohltemperiertes Klavier 2
No 16 in G minor BWV.885
Etudes Op.10-4
Etudes D'exécution Transcendante
No.5 Feux follets
BACH
CHOPIN
You don't have enough time to prepare for all these.
Rondo Toccata
L'isle joyeuse
Sonata K300d(310) in A minor
Sonate No.2 in G minor Op.
Three movements from
MOZART
SCHUMANN
STRAVINSKY
So instead I've chosen these pieces. The difficulty is high but they'll show off your technique.
You need to play three pieces for the 2nd preliminary.
One note at a time!
From here on in it's victory or sudden defeat!

· J.S.BACH
· CHOPIN
· LISZT
Etudes Op.10-4
Etudes D'eux
I've played Chopin's etude...
A long time ago...
10-4
That's a required contemporary piece.
Daisaku Ebihara... I've never played this before...
Who?
He's a nice guy...
A long time ago?
Maybe I can remember it.
I'll try.

"You can already play this piece."

"You're great, Megumi-chan."
"Amazing"
"Great"
DAIDAIN

B...
SHWOOO
Bravo...
That etude sounded like burning spirits...
She's not just a great player.
There's something about her that captivates people.
She even incited Chiaki to get her crabs.
It's going to happen.



Maradona Piano Competition, 2nd preliminary

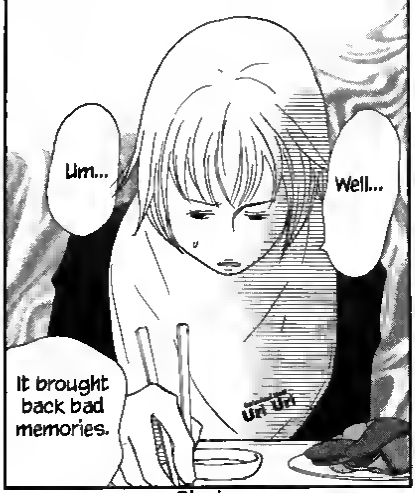
CHOPIN: Etude Op. 10-4

That girl...
She's the one who played Schubert so beautifully, right?
Her Chopin is so proper...
Is she burning out!?
But not many people can play 10-4 properly...
Yeah...

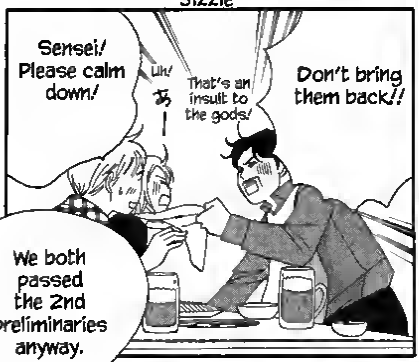
SZT: Études d'exécution transcendante
(Transcendental Etudes)
o. 5 "Feux follets"
(Will o' the wisp)

I can't believe it...
She looks like she doesn't want to play...
Oh... No!
She's a wonder girl.

Ah
Auclair-sensei...
I want to know more about her ~~~
She looks like a "Will o' the wisp" drawing us in
I would like to hear more...
I feel the same...
I want to get to know her better, too.
Today she didn't play with heart, but...
I liked her better than the other performers who were "overacting."


Um...
Well...
It brought back bad memories.
Barbecued Meat
Uri Uri

Sizzle —


Sensei! Please calm down!
Uh!
That's an insult to the gods!
Don't bring them back!!

Barbecued Meat
Uri Uri
Kalbi Day
No Smoking
You behaved very badly at the competition!!

We both passed the 2nd preliminaries anyway.
Your performance was honest and had heart.
I think you did a good job!
Thank you...

Tsuboi...

I played before you...
so I got to watch the people after me.
I noticed that the reaction for you was different than for the others.
But sensei, Noda-san was great too.
Pork Liver
SIZZLE
You seemed to already have fans.
Stop praising her!
Well... her interpretations were pretty original but...
I couldn't believe she could play those pieces so fast.
And her technique was amazing.
You made me laugh today when you played.
Would you like some liver?
It was exciting.

I heard he won 1st place at the Oshiuri Competition when he was just a junior high student.
And that he's studied abroad.
As expected, he's getting public attention.
Ah...
Segawa...
Number 21...
She's good enough to battle Yuuto Segawa, don't you think?
Gee!
That's uncool
Number 21...
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
Segawa...
*Possessed Nodame
He didn't have to come back to Japan.
Why doesn't he enter a big international competition?
Maybe he just wants to get some experience?
The media is chasing him for a documentary.
SIZZLE
Hm...
Everybody thinks he's the next star.

Maradona Piano Competition, 3rd preliminary
Player No. 8
The next day

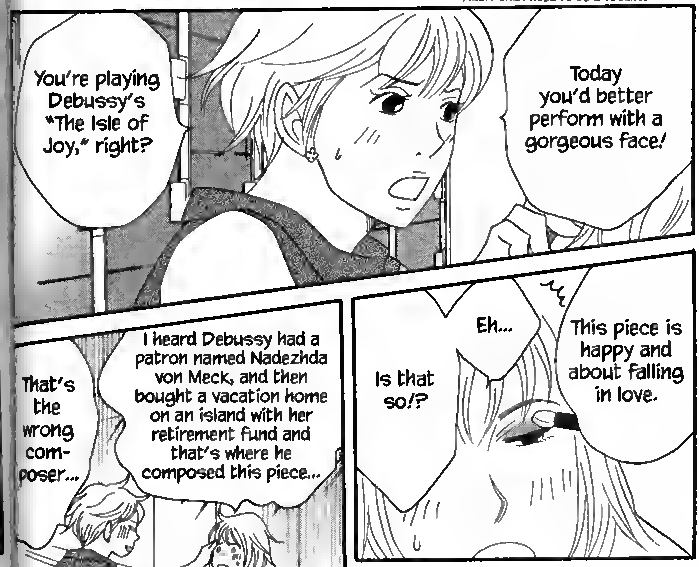
Tsuboi kun

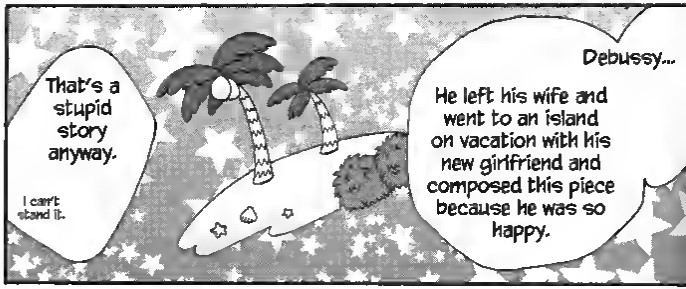
His Fauré wasn't good but...
His Mendelssohn is nice.
Yes, it is.

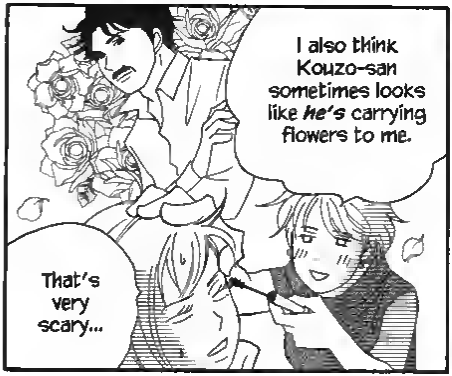
I wonder if that other girl... will make it?
I think the 3rd preliminary is about expression.
You mean that girl, right?
Yeah. That one, that one.
"The messy hair and dress girl!"
Women
No! You need to put on some makeup!
Otherwise your face will lose to your dress!
Nodame-chan!

HMPH!
Fix your hair!
You've been making that face since yesterday!
GYRBO/
You should care about how you look!
You're wearing one of my nice dresses...

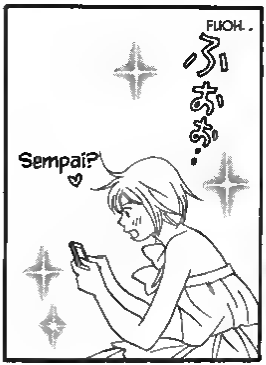
↑ Kaori-chan used to be a vocalist

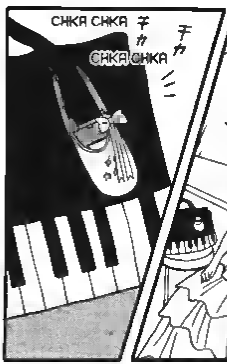

You're playing Debussy's "The Isle of Joy," right?
Today you'd better perform with a gorgeous face!
That's the wrong composer...
I heard Debussy had a patron named Nadezhda von Meck, and then bought a vacation home on an island with her retirement fund and that's where he composed this piece...
Eh...
Is that so!?
This piece is happy and about falling in love.


Debussy...
He left his wife and went to an island on vacation with his new girlfriend and composed this piece because he was so happy.
That's a stupid story anyway.
I can't stand it.


I also think Kouzo-san sometimes looks like *he's* carrying flowers to me.
That's very scary...

But...
Love can be scary like that.
PHEW


FUOH..
Sempai?


CHKA CHKA
CHKA CHKA

Ah.. I want to go to an island in the south, too.

Sub: Competition

Good luck. I'll come
see you in the finals.

------ END ------

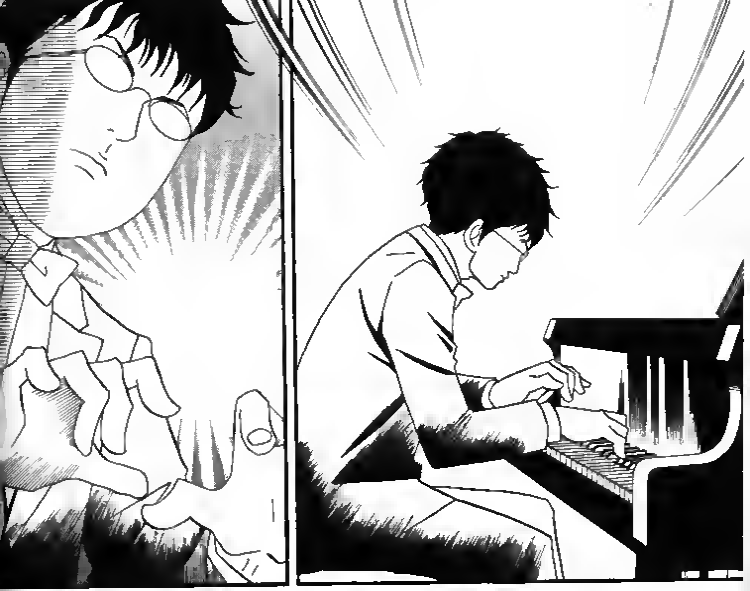
Nice...
Again, the sound is twinkling.
This Debussy is colorful.

No...
That's not what she's expressing.
Is she still a little child...
She's expressive.
Not at all like how she played in the 2nd preliminary.
HA
HA
HA
Debussy, who lost himself in love?

Lesson46
BRAHMS

Are you all right? Your hands are cold, Yuu-kun.
Are you nervous?
No, mom, I'm not.
Really?
HEE
You don't need to go to the bathroom?
Thanks.
KLP
I'll do my best.
Good luck.
Now it's your turn!
Here's your handkerchief.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
WAA

Maradona Piano Competition, the 3rd preliminary
Player No. 21
WAR
CLAP
That's Yuuto Segawa...
He makes a strong impression.



Brahms <Paganini Variations> Op. 35-1

His chords sound beautiful.
He must have practiced this piece a lot.
His playing is more relaxed than the others'.
He's playing the variation with a lot of emotion and lyricism.

Ravel: Phantoms of the Night <Scarbo>

Great.
No mistakes!
just like the monster "Scarbo," isn't he?
"Scarbo" is a fairy!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
Bravo!
WAA
WAA
I'll make hamburgers tonight!

He deserved to get 3rd place...
at the Buffon International Competition.

What great technique.
His playing is different from mine.
He's better than...
His vibrato is also colorful.
He plays fast passages very well.
I didn't expect him to play so delicate and detailed.
ふぅ
PHEW
What do you think...
Chiaki-kun?

That girl or me... which one is right for your concertmaster?
What are you talking about!?
Pori Productions has offered me a position in the entertainment industry.
Kya!
I'll turn it down if I can be in this orchestra... but I have to be the concertmaster!
You just came to audition for this orchestra, right!?
Shut up! Afro hair.
So why do you have to be the concert-master!?
KEE
I'm not joining this orchestra unless I'm the concertmaster!
Why aren't you at work, Masumi-chan?

They offered me a job as the leader of the "15 Boys Musical Band."
They all play violin
Those guys are all..
Every one of them is a good-looking ♡ guy.
Isn't that modeling and acting/?
Oh/
Entertainment
!?
Into *Smappy!?
They are trend-chasers.
You're not altogether bad...
Why would you want to pass that up to join this orchestra?
Because...
This orchestra is great.
I got excited when I watched you perform.
Everybody plays well and they're young.
They're confi-dent...
and enjoy playing...
*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES.

Men dressed in formal wear...
The conductor was stimulating and left me in ecstasy...
It had many different sounds...
Oh... It's hard to put it into words...
Anyway, I really like classical music!
And especially, I like this orchestra!
I also like Chiaki-kun. ♡
< Confession
Please...
I can't stand the last thing he just said.
Just get out of here!
We already have a fine concertmaster!
KYA!
*Salt

*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES.

I'm touched by your enthusiasm!
Starting today, you're a member of the R☆S Orchestra.
You're not gonna ask us!?
GYEE
Hey, Ryu-chan!
He has better technique and his sound
is more pleasant!
Takahashi-kun's playing doesn't have as big an impact as Kiyora's but...

Ryu-chan...
Mine...
isn't as good as 3rd place at the Buffon International Competition and Buffon's also better publicity.
Besides, 2nd place at a competition in Japan...
Eh?
So Kiyora
And if you want to be our concertmaster again...
bring back a few better titles than he has!
You can go back to Vienna without worrying about us.
You don't have to feel bad.

You can do it!
Ryu...
Silly idiot..
Don't worry about me.
I'll be practicing my violin so hard I won't have time to cheat on you.
Huh?
Wha...!?
Chiaki-sama.. You didn't know..
I'll keep playing in this orchestra.
It doesn't matter how many players leave me.

Do you want to come by Uraken?
You're right. Mine.
Our orchestra isn't only for the present.
I hope that it will continue to evolve.
I'll keep playing.
Hey, Chiaki-kun!
Let's the two of us talk until tomorrow morning and get to know each other!
Where's your home?

There's someone else who's evolving fast.
Yes!
You came here for this, Masumi!?
Get away while you can!
Chiaki-sama! Hurry!
KYAA
Ah...
あ？
PEEP
I also have to hurry up with what I want to do...
Sub: It's Nodame.
I'll be waiting for you at the finals.
---- END ----

MUMBLE
Schumann.
MUMBLE
No...
Nodame-chan...
can't I
Why...
Wrong...
I can't play the rhythm right...
Ah!
That's not right.
From the 2nd finger...

You should eat some lunch.
You haven't had anything to eat since yesterday.
↑ Evolving Fast
HEE
Nodame-chan! Maybe you should take a break.
What are you doing!?
Go outside and get some fresh air.
Kozo-san went to school today...
Why didn't you go!?
The new term already began, didn't it...?
MUMBLE
MUMBLE

ガタン
KAKLK
ゴトン
It's late...
Today I need to give her a lesson all the way till midnight.
I'm surprised...
I didn't expect Noda to be chosen as a finalist.
Unlike Tsuboi, who did have enough time to prepare.
It'll take time for her to learn
There are two more pieces... I don't know if she can make it.
Anyway, it's Schumann...
Not again...
Her playing yesterday was awful.

How did she learn them so quickly!?
What's happened to her!?
She's already completely mastered them!?

Electrical current?
Maybe this one's positive and this one's negative?
−
+
What's that?
Well...
Nodame-chan was doing this!!
But I don't know what this means.
Did someone come
and teach this to her?
No one came here!
Don't
You're scaring me!
Nodame-chan has been practicing all by herself...
She kept playing the same part over and over.
And she was mumbling something.
Electrical current!?
What's happening to her...
She did the same thing the other day.
She was playing Schubert quite badly.
But the very next day she had it mastered.

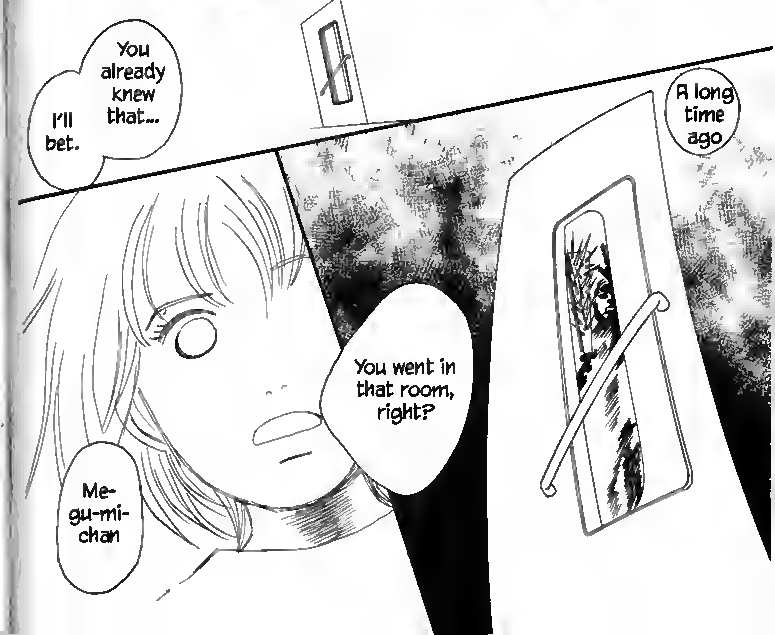
She played a difficult piece easily in practice...
But she didn't play it right at the competition!
I don't understand it!
Her Mozart...
is not good again...
↑ He's getting used to this.
It should sound like this.
She can play difficult things.
But she can't do the simple things.
I don't understand her!

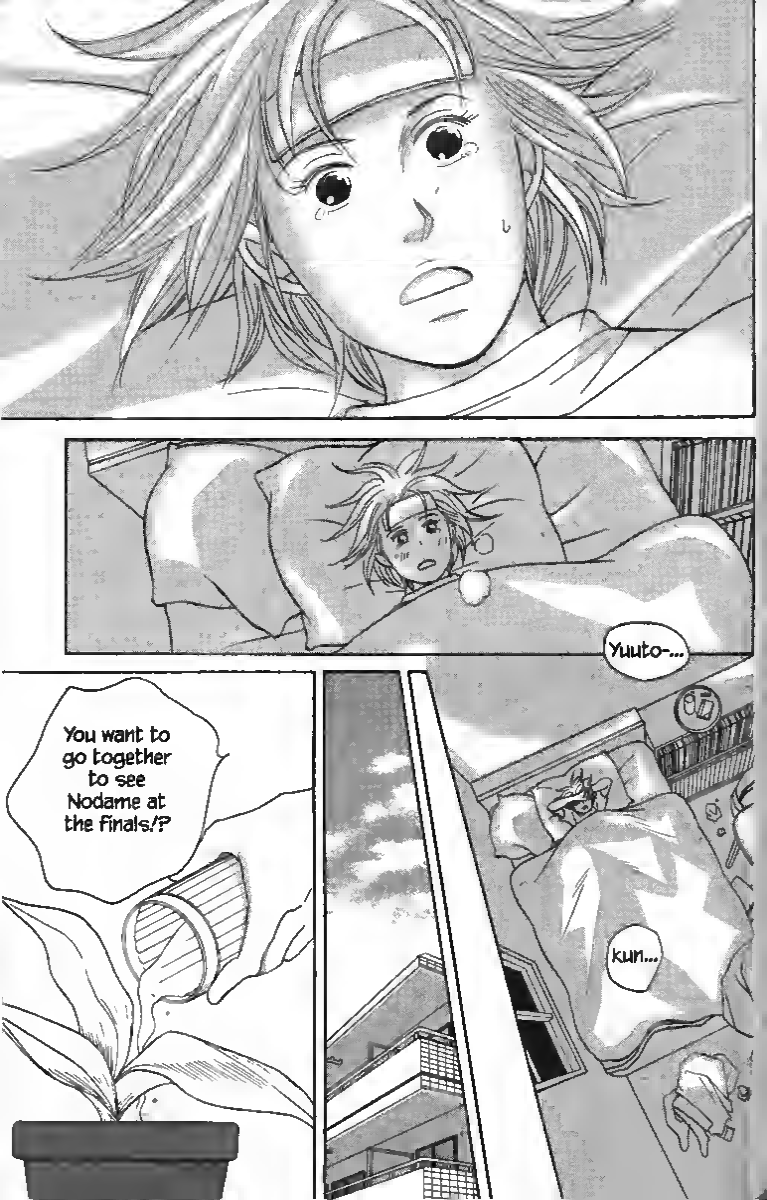
I've never had a student like her.
I'm not sure how I should teach her.
THMP?
THMP
Noda/?

*38.8
38.8
Should we give her medicine?
Something for a fever?
She always acts strange so I didn't realize there was anything different about her.
Should we take her to the hospital!?
What should we do, Kozo-san!
ワタワタ
HEEE
It's late. Let's watch her condition for tonight.
Flip-flop
I think she's over-fatigued because of the competition.
But she hasn't been eating because she's practicing so much...
*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES

First, she didn't have enough time to practice, and now she's losing even more time.
It can't be helped...
Harisen has also reached his peak.
That's okay with me now.
Take a rest for a while.
If you pass through Paganini's rings, you get 15 black rabbits!

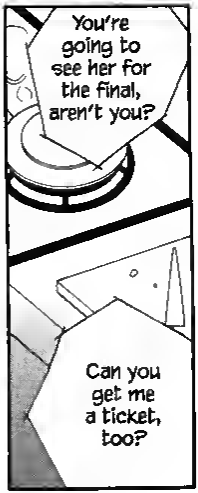
I'm going to do it!
ZANN
I don't think you can.
Don't try it.
What are you doing?
Didn't you like the Habu!?
Liar!
You really like the national monument better?
I'll tell you something.
You're just a mongoose!
If you make mistakes...
your punishment is 1,000 needles!


A long time ago
You went in that room, right?
Megumi-chan
You already knew that...
I'll bet.


Yuuto-...
kun...
You want to go together to see Nodame at the finals!?

Just as Toshi-kun said, your girlfriend's a wonderful piano player. ♡
I checked, and she's one of the finalists. That's great!
Ehh...
She's not my girlfriend...

HO HO HO
She already told me that. ♡
What...!?
Mother, how do you know about that?
They're e-mail friends.
She was going to enter a competition.



NODAME CANTABILE 8 / THE END

Thank you for helping me in my research!!

Real Nodame (She teaches her own piano class in Fukuoka. Seeking students!)
Daichi Hoshino-kun (He performs on the electric violin.)
Akinori Ohsawa-sensei (Composer)
Miki Ohsawa-san (Pianist)

I went to a concert and I slept. It was very pleasant.

Tomoko Ninomiya
2004. 1. 29

About the Author

Tomoko Ninomiya was born in Saitama in 1969. She made her debut as manga-ka with "London Doubt Boys" in 1989. Her main works include "Green" and "Miho the Trend Queen." She is currently working on "Nodame Cantabile," which is serialized in *Kiss* (Kodansha).

Here is Tomoko Ninomiya's comment upon winning the 28th Kodansha Manga Award in 2004:

"I hope someone enjoys reading this series. This hope and wish is what always motivates me when working on a manga.

"The original inspiration for 'Nodame Cantabile' came from an idea that I had, that it might be fun to write about a young piano student who practices the piano in a room full of junk. Looking back, I am amazed that my editor and the magazine let me serialize it, and I'm grateful.

"This is also a series which would not have been possible without the generous cooperation of music students and professionals whom I interviewed. The Manga Award goes to everyone who was involved with 'Nodame,' including Mikawa-san my editor and all the staff members who work with me.

"I will continue to enjoy working on this series, and I hope my readers will continue to enjoy it, too."

Translation Notes

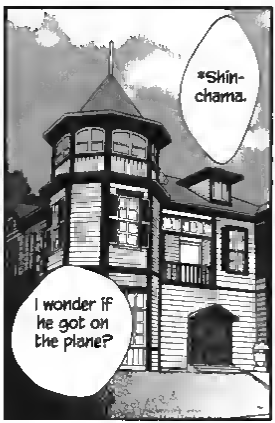
Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Puri Gorota, page 55

Puri Gorota is a cartoon character first introduced in *Nodame Cantabile* volume 3. Nodame likes to eat their chocolates and Shinichi thought she was going to give him another piece for a present.

-chama, page 77

The honorific chama is a variation of sama, which is a pretty formal type of address. Much like san is changed to chan for familiarity and cuteness, sama is changed to chama for the same effect. Although sama denotes a higher amount of respect, in upper-class families it is used more commonly, and chama is used the same as you would use chan. Another variation would be bochama as used for young boys.



Clean-Up piano sonata, page 83

The Clean-Up piano sonata is a reference to volume one in the series when Chiaki is cleaning up Nodame's filthy apartment. She begins to improvise a song on the piano and tells Chiaki it's the Clean-Up piano sonata, their prelude to love.

yen, page 88

Although exchange rates are always changing, 1 yen is worth approximately 1 cent. That would make the prize for the competition worth $20,000.

Nice meet you, page 106

Since Kai Dowin is German and his Japanese apparently is not perfect, in the original Japanese, he mispronounces the word "Yoroshiku" as "Yoroshiko," which means "Nice to meet you." The small print outside the panel is a correction of his mistake.

Smappy, page 169

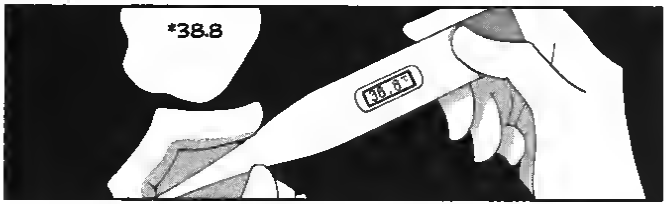
When Masumi mentions Smappy, it is a humorous reference to the all-time biggest boy band in Japan, SMAP (which stands for Sports Music Assemble People). They've covered everything from variety shows to commercials and have topped the radio charts and filled concert halls. This could also be a play on the Twelve Girls Band from China. They're a group of classically trained women who play traditional Chinese instruments. They perform everything from ancient Chinese music to contemporary pop and everything in between.

throwing salt, page 170

It's an old superstition that throwing salt over your shoulder will clear away the bad spirits. It is similar to blessing someone after they've sneezed. Some believe the salt is intended to blind the devil, while others say it's to keep him from sneaking up on you.

Celsius, page 184

Temperature in Japan is measured in Celsius. The thermometer reads 38.8, which in Fahrenheit would be 101.8.



THE FUTURE IS CALLING

It's showtime for Shinichi's new Rising Star Orchestra. Renowned critics and famous musicians have gathered to see the debut performance. Meanwhile, Nodame is playing hypnotist on Shinichi, trying to cure him of his fear of flying. After all, she wants her true love to be able to perform abroad. But will the concert take Shinichi's career to the next level? And if Nodame succeeds in freeing Shinichi of his panic attacks, will she be left behind? It's anybody's guess in this symphony of conflicted decisions, crushes, and pianos!

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